

REMARKS***Summary of the Amendment***

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1 and 4 will have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1 – 9 currently remain pending.

Summary of the Ex parte Quayle Action

In the instant *Ex parte Quayle* action, the Examiner has indicated that, except for formal matters, the instant application is in condition for allowance. In particular, the Examiner has objected to informal matters related to claims 1 – 9 and rejected claim 4 based solely upon formal matter. By the present amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the objections and rejections have been overcome, and respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Objection to Claims is Moot

By the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in order to address and overcome the informalities identified in the Examiner's objection to claims 1 – 9.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the Examiner's objection is moot, and request that the Examiner reconsider the pending claims and indicate that these claims are in proper form.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is Moot

By the present amendment, Applicants have amended claim 4 in order to address the formal matter noted by the Examiner, i.e., that the claims does not provide adequate antecedent basis for the term "said different weighting factors." In the instant amendment, the term "said" has been deleted, thereby rendering the instant rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and indicate that this claim is fully in compliance with the requirements of the statute.

Application is Allowable

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, and respectfully request the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

Authorization to Charge Deposit Account

The undersigned authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, including any extensions of time fees required to place the application in condition for allowance by Examiner's Amendment, to Deposit Account No. 19 - 0089 in order to maintain pendency of this application.

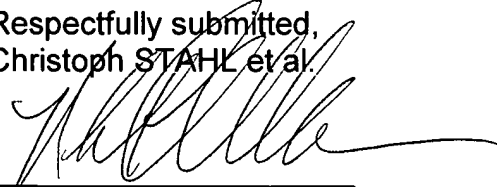
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1 – 9 are allowable, and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Further, Applicants note that the instant amendments have been presented to clarify the claims without narrowing the scope of the claims, such that no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
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